

John M. Alexander, Jr. of Cardinal International Trucks, Inc. in Raleigh, North Carolina, recipient of the ATD/Heavy Duty Trucking Dealer of the Year Award honoring his outstanding leadership within the truck industry and the community. Mr. Alexander's accomplishment is particularly exceptional because his father, John Alexander, Sr., won the NADA/Time Magazine Dealer of the Year Award in 1968.

John Alexander started working sorting parts in his father's dealership when he was twelve years old. During ensuing years, he worked in various departments of the family business, climbing up the company climber. In 1981, he became the new President and General Manager of Cardinal International Trucks. In addition to running his dealership, he also holds the position of secretary/treasurer of the UD National Dealer Council and serves as a "grassroots lobbyist" for the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association.

John Alexander, Jr. is not only active in the truck industry, but he is also very active in his community. When Mr. Alexander is not at work he can be found raising funds for schools and local charities. His efforts helped supply Lacy Elementary School with their first computer lab. He has also shown his dedication to maintaining a strong relationship between fathers and schools by co-founding a program called the "Dad's Lunch Bunch," which also allows him time to spend with his daughters, Mary Carroll who is sixteen and Catherine McKnitt who is fourteen.

I commend Mr. Alexander for his hard work in both the Raleigh community and the truck industry. I encourage my colleagues to read the following article announcing his important work and achievement:

1998 DEALER OF THE YEAR JOHN ALEXANDER, JR.

Alexander's first job in his father's dealership was counting parts at age 12. From there he worked his way through virtually every department—service, parts, administration and sales—until becoming president and general manager in 1981.

He has been an active participant in numerous industry activities. He is secretary/treasurer of the UD National Dealer Council, a "grass roots lobbyist" for the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Assn. and serves on the technical training committee of North Carolina Industries for Technical Education.

In his community he's a tireless fund-raiser for charitable organizations and the local schools. Largely due to his efforts, one local elementary school was the first in the county to get a computer lab and computers in each classroom. He co-founded the "Dad's Lunch Bunch," a program aimed at getting fathers more involved in the schools, and is spearheading a drive to update computer technology in a local school.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ROBERT JONES

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and exemplary career of local industrial giant from my district in California's great Central Valley.

Robert Jones recently announced his retirement after an extraordinary career of 47 years

with N.I. Industries, Inc. With the exception of only 7 months, Bob's entire career, which began in 1952, has been in manufacturing ammunition metal products. The last 25 years of his career have been in a managerial capacity. Without question, Bob's career significantly contributed to our ability to win the cold war.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to take a moment to reflect on Bob's career. He has proven that a young man with a willingness to work who takes responsibility for his actions can succeed and achieve the American dream. His is a story of hard work and success.

Bob ends his career at the highest level of management in his company. During his most recent position as general manager of the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant, since 1988 he has implemented an ambitious, yet highly successful, environmental program which was recognized last year by the Department of Defense as the Nation's leader in industrial environmental remediation.

He also implemented a highly successful Armament Retooling and Manufacturing program to transform an idle manufacturing facility into inspired reuse—providing for more than a 300-percent increase in the local work force. His efforts have resulted in annual reductions in the operating budget by more than 50 percent.

Finally, Bob was instrumental in the development of the West Coast Deep Drawn Cartridge Case Facility at Riverbank to help continue to meet our Nation's munitions needs. His management skills have proven that we are indeed losing a true industrial giant.

Mr. Speaker, Bob reflects great credit on the dedication to the many men and women at the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant and the entire 18th Congressional District.

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to Bob and his wife, Pat. I wish him health and happiness in his retirement years and hope he gets to enjoy the company of his three children and grandchildren. I ask that my colleagues rise with me in honoring Robert Jones in his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL MATERIALS CORRIDOR PART- NERSHIP ACT OF 1999

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, today I want to introduce the National Materials Corridor Partnership Act of 1999. I am joined by Mr. BINGAMAN who will be introducing the same legislation in the Senate today as well.

Members of the House are aware of my long-standing interest in improving scientific and technological cooperation between the United States and Mexico. The purpose of this bill is to promote joint research in materials science between research institutions in the border region.

The shared border region between the United States and Mexico has become increasingly important to the economies of both countries. The border region is a center of manufacturing, mining, metal, ceramics, plas-

tics, cement, and petrochemical industries. Materials and materials-related industries are a significant element of the industrial base(s) on both sides of the border, accounting for more than \$7 billion in revenue on the Mexican side alone. In addition, there are more than 800 multinational "maquiladora" industries valued at more than \$1 billion in the San Diego/Tijuana and El Paso/Juarez regions. These materials-related industries, providing tens of thousands of jobs in both countries, are critical to the economic health of the border region. However, these same industries, in conjunction with continued population growth, have placed severe stress on the environment, natural resources and the public health of the region.

More needs to be done to harness the scientific and technical resources on both sides of the border to address these problems. Scientific and technological advances in the development and application of materials and materials processing provide major opportunities for significant improvements in minimizing industrial wastes and pollutants. Similar opportunities exist to eliminate or minimize emissions of global climate change gases and contaminants, to utilize recycled materials for production, and to allow for the more efficient use of energy. Recognizing these opportunities, academic and research institutions in the border region of both countries, together with private sector partners, recently proposed a Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative. This Initiative proposes joint collaborative efforts by more than 40 institutions to develop and promote the usage of clean eco-friendly and energy efficient sustainable materials technology in the border region. Organizations involved in the Material Corridor Partnerships Initiative include pre-eminent universities and national laboratories located on both sides of the border.

While the Initiative envisions conducting a strong cooperative program between universities and national labs, private sector participation also will be an integral part of its activities. One model for such participation is the Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD). In addition to the BCSD model, special industrial outreach programs would be developed to aid industry in problem solving, especially related to materials limitations, environmental protection and energy efficiency. Another important element of the Materials Corridor proposal is the education and training of the next generation of researchers.

Mexican institutions strongly support this initiative and have committed seed money to implement the program among Mexican institutions. I hope that the U.S. Government will also support this proposal. To this end, I am introducing the "National Materials Corridor Partnership Act of 1999. The bill provides, among other things, authorization of \$5 million for each of fiscal year 2000 through 2004 to fund appropriate research and development in support of the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative. The monies would be used to support joint programs and would leverage support from the private sector in both countries, as well as the Government of Mexico.

I want to commend Senator BINGAMAN for his long-standing interest in improving scientific and technological cooperation between the United States and Mexico. And I look forward to working with him to realize the goals of this legislation.